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THE NUR AF SHAN

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY.

Vol. X.

LUDHIANA:—January 26th, 1906.

No 4.

FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.

London, Jan. 17.—4.10 p.m.

M. Fallieres have been elected President of the French Republic.

M. Fallieres had 449 votes, and M. Doumer 371.

London, Jan. 17.—8.20 a.m.

The *Standard* states that as the result of a Diplomatic interchange of views Great Britain and Russia have agreed to act in concert at the Morocco Conference.

London, Jan. 16.

The first sitting of the Morocco Conference at Algieras to-day was devoted to formalities.

The Council of Workmen's delegates composed of 22 revolutionaries have been arrested at St. Petersburg. It is expected this will nip in the bud any expansion of such organisations.

London, Jan. 18.

M. Fallieres, the new French President, is a self-made man of moderate opinions and unassuming habits. He is generally described as a second Loubet.

Calcutta, Jan. 18.

A special cable to the *Englishman* states that in spite of accounts from Algieras of an amicable settlement in Morocco there is extreme tension in Germany and a widespread fear that war is imminent.

London, Jan. 19.

Reuter wiring from Peking says that the Chinese persist in refusal to sign the Anglo-Tibetan treaty, and are considering a project to send a Tartar General to govern Tibet with foreign drilled troops.

Six Jewish members of a Revolutionary Committee recently arrested in Warsaw were shot yesterday.

In the elections of mayors in Crete the Opposition had a large majority, forecasting the results of the impending elections for the Assembly. The Italian troops had a sharp encounter with villagers at Campanos. One soldier was killed and 23 Cretans were killed and wounded.

Socialist meetings to protest against the franchise amendment resulted in rioting at Hamburg last evening. The mob assailed the police with bricks, one man being killed and many injured. Barricades were erected but the rioters were eventually dispersed by sabre charges.

The French and Venezuelan Ministers have left Venezuela and France respectively.

London, Jan. 21.

The French army estimates for 1906 show an increase of £1,360,000 sterling; the report thereon points out that Germany's expenditure in 1905 was five times that of France and urges the necessity of being ready for all emergencies.

London, Jan. 20.

Telegrams from various Russian centres show general improvement. The pacification of the Baltic Provinces is proceeding slowly and steadily. Ten more revolutionaries have been executed at Warsaw.

London, Jan. 21.

Most stringent measures were taken at St. Petersburg, Moscow and elsewhere to prevent a demonstration on the occasion of the anniversary of Red Sunday, (the workmen observing the day as a day of mourning.)

The French Socialists are holding many meetings to sympathise with their Russian comrades.

London, Jan. 20.

The Venezuelan President Castro's attitude towards the American Minister is irritating. A French naval demonstration against Venezuela is viewed complacently at Washington.

London, Jan. 20.—4.30 a.m.

Mr. Wright, Governor of the Philippines, has been appointed American Ambassador in Japan.

Calcutta, Jan. 20.

On Tuesday last at midnight there was a fatal collision on the northern section of the Eastern Bengal State Railway. It seems that an up goods train left Saraghat on Tuesday evening and arrived at Gopalpore, where another down goods train was standing. There was apparently some misunderstanding as to the giving of the "fine clear" signal, and the up goods train left Gopalpore and proceeded towards Abdulpur before its time. In the meantime another goods train had left Abdulpur, and at midnight there was a collision some miles from Gopalpore.

The engine of the down goods train was entirely wrecked, and the other engine badly damaged. Twenty-four wagons were also damaged. The native driver and two firemen were killed, the body of the former being found in the fire-box of his engine.

London, Jan. 22.

It is stated that forty non-commissioned officers will be court-martialled at an early date in connection with the War Stores Inquiry.

London, Jan. 22.—3.25 p.m.

Socialist meetings held throughout Germany unanimously passed a resolution sympathizing with the Russian revolution and demanding reform of miserably inadequate franchise in Prussia. All the meetings were most orderly due to the excellence of the party's organisation.

The magazine of the Brazilian ironclad *Aquidaban* exploded at midnight near Rio de Janeiro and she sank in three minutes. The Commander and four Rear-Admirals, accompanying the Minister of Marine on a tour of inspection, perished, and it is reported that altogether three hundred were drowned.

London, Jan. 22.—5.20 a.m.

The independent Labour party are pledging themselves to form a distinct group and abstain strictly from identifying themselves with any section of the Liberals or Conservatives.

As Mr. Balfour is now unlikely to secure a seat before the assembling of Parliament it is expected that Mr. Akers-Douglas will lead the opposition.

Up to the present 27 London County Councillors have been elected for Parliament.



EDITORIAL NOTES.

One of the saddest things which we observe in the course of human events is the way in which the wrong doing of one person or persons will result in disaster to others quite innocent of offence. It begins to be apparent, so far as we can judge from the tangled accounts which have reached us of the massacre at Lien Chow, China, that the animosity displayed was not against the missionaries as *missionaries*, but against them as *Americans*. Mrs. Fulton of Canton writes that the plot to rouse the missionaries to some sort of action by giving them extreme, and unprovoked annoyance is simply part of the widespread American boycott, and is therefore a forceful though illogical means of expressing China's hatred of America, for the treatment of the ecclesiastics going to its shores. If there were one thing which could make up to China for the indignities certain American officials have heaped upon its people it would be in the self-sacrificing efforts of missionary doctors. But it is upon these most inoffensive well wishers of the Chinese people that the revenge has to fall.

The Editor desires to express his extreme regret for the personalities which appeared in the course of a discussion in the Urdu section of this paper, regarding the prizes awarded to the schools of Ludbiana at the recent tournament. Greater care will be taken in the future that only such articles as are kindly and helpful in their tone appear in our pages. We have room for anything that is likely to bring pleasure to our readers but our columns are closed to all that brings pain.

The following communication explains itself, but deserves more than the brief comment which we can give it now. We hope to speak of it at greater length in our next issue. At this time we would simply say that it meets our hearty approval.

A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Meerut, U. P.

DEAR SIR,

God is doing wondrous things for the Church in India. We are praising Him for the awakening which has come and for the Spirit of Revival which is so manifest throughout the land and the earnest desire for still wider and deeper blessing in so many hearts.

A brief review of the various reports of awakening and Revival blessing as given in the Christian Press shows that the movement is chiefly amongst Indian Christians. We must all rejoice at this and recognise what a tremendous import it has for the future of India. Our earnest prayer, too,

will be that this Revival may be more widely experienced throughout the Indian Church.

It will be readily admitted however, that there is equal necessity for the foreign Christian community in India to participate in this Revival movement. There are not wanting signs that the Holy Spirit is working amongst all classes of Christians and that His influence, too, is being felt by the non-Christians as shewn in a greater willingness to listen to the Gospel message and a growing spirit of enquiry with regard to the person and claims of the Lord Jesus Christ. Unless the Church of Christ in India as a whole, indigenous and foreign, participates in the present Revival blessing and moves forward together there will be a distinct loss of power and a serious set-back to the present limitless possibilities of Gospel triumphs in this land.

Ministers, Missionaries, Christian Workers of all kinds, paid and voluntary, Christians of all classes need the reviving power of God's Holy Spirit. A great mass of nominal Christians need the converting and quickening grace of the Spirit of God. God is waiting for His people. He has shewn in an unmistakable way He is willing to bless if we are willing to be blessed.

With this in view and having regard to the present opportunity I ventured to propose that a special evangelistic campaign for all India should be entered upon at an early date.

The proposal was placed before the Executive Committees of the C. E. Organizations assembled in Allahabad in December last and the majority expressed approval of the general principle.

Dr. A. H. Ewing of Allahabad wrote, "I have been discussing it with the Executive Committee of the C. E. Organization. There are two things which seem to need doing:—(1) A Missioner from home for the large cities (2) a band of men.....who would go wherever the way is open and under God's blessing kindle the fire of God anew..... something should be done."

At the close of last year I went to a Students Camp at Fatehpur and there the Leaders present talked over the matter. Amongst those who discussed it were Dr. A. H. Ewing, A. P. Mission, Messrs G. S. Eddy, E. C. Carter and L. P. Larsen, Y. M. C. A., the Revs. B. T. B. Badley and D. Clancy, M. E. Mission, W. E. S. Holland, C. M. S. and several others.

It was strongly felt that something ought to be done. That the English Speaking Christian community is not being touched to any great extent is undoubted. It was suggested that it was possible that there had not been definite sustained prayer for this section of the Christian Church as for the Indian Church and this is the cause of the lack of Revival in it.

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So far as I could gather from the views then expressed it seemed that the consensus of opinion was—That the proposal was one to be carefully considered and the views of others sought thereon. That a Missioner from home should be invited and, as suggested by Dr. Ewing, a band of men be chosen from those already in the country to co-operate, holding Meetings both in English and the Vernaculars—*That in any case an earnest appeal be made for prayer for the English speaking Christian Churches that God's Holy Spirit may be poured upon them in Revival power.*

The following points in connection with this proposal will help to make the purpose aimed at more clear.—That as far as possible, a united invitation be extended to some approved Missioner, or Missioners to visit India and hold a series of Meetings extending over any period up to a year. That a guarantee fund be formed to ensure the liquidation of the Mission in the event of voluntary gifts not being sufficient to meet the expenses.—That a Central Committee be formed to organise and arrange for the various Missions, working with and through local committees.—That local help be made use of also for strengthening and extending the scope of the Mission.

I should be very glad to have your opinion regarding this proposal whether you think it should be proceeded with or not.

Yours faithfully

W. G. Proctor.

CHRISTIAN WORK NEVER FRUITLESS.

The Christian worker is after discouraged. A lifetime may seem spent in vain. Often the successful efforts of years, by some act of violence, may seem to have been wiped out for ever. But as sure as the established fact in physical science that nothing is ever lost so surely is it true that work for God is never wrought in vain. An illustration of this is found in the Basel Mission which was closed in 1838 by a mandate of the Czar of Russia. The work of this mission was begun at Shusha in 1823. Soon after its founding, Dr. Pfander, afterwards so well known in India, began his notable work here, and here he wrote his *Mizân ul Haqq*. A gospel was translated into the Armenian language. A few other books were prepared and published to aid the Armenian Christians in their discussions with Muslims. A small company of believers had accepted the Evangelical teachings of the Missionaries. The Armenian Church hierarchy was disturbed by this Evangelical or Protestant movement and did not hesitate to urge the Russian Government to put a stop to it. The order came and the Missionaries had to leave the country. What was harder was to leave the little band of native Christians as sheep without a

shepherd. It seemed as if Satan had triumphed and that all the labour and striving and tears, during the 15 years gone by, had been lost for ever.

But it was not so. An interesting article in the *Missionary Review of the World* for Nov. 1905, by Dr. Samuel G. Wilson of Tabriz, Persia, tells us that the Evangelical Church has had a history of singular interest. He says:—

"At Shusha a small congregation continues to exist, hindered on the one hand by the oppressions of the Gregorian Armenians, and on the other hand by divisions on the question of baptism. The best results are seen at Shamakhi, where one of their pupils (pupils of the Basel Missionaries at Shusha) Sarkis Hambartsuarian, who was educated at Basel took up the work. Success brought on persecution and he was exiled to Siberia. After his return, he built up a flourishing congregation of 400 members, to which he ministered for many years, was known as "Vertebed" or "Monk Sarkis," because he never married, owing to the fact that his betrothed forsook him when he was sent into exile. His successor was Rev. Gregor Guergian, of the East Turkey Mission. The ability of the congregation may be seen in the fact that they contributed Rs. 24,00 a year to church work. At this time they were favoured by a visit from Mr. Boedekur, and experienced a gracious revival and an increase in members. But Mr. Guergian fell under the face of the authorities and was taken under guard to Batum and expelled from Russia. The Shamakhi congregation has sent out from its midst a colony of Protestant Armenians to Baku, where they are a wealthy and influential element."

The work thus begun and carried on has been aided by other missionary agencies so that now an aggressive work is carried on in Tiflis, Baku, Shusha, and Alexandropol.

What the effect of the civil war in this region has been upon these Protestant communities we do not know. But we may be sure that the work thus well begun will be carried on until the final communication of a regenerate Transcaucasia.

Rev. E. M. Wherry, D. D.

"Can you find a law of God which is in itself, and on all sides of it, a dark and repulsive thing? Can you find one which is not, in fact, a prescription commanding us to be happy and showing us the way?"

Enoch Mellor, D. D.

Strive not to banish pain and doubt,
In pleasure's noisy din;
The peace thou seekest for without
Is only found within."

—Cary.

It is the love and kindness of human hearts through which the divine reality comes home to men, whether they name it or not.—G. S. Merriam.



NOTHING GOOD EVER LOST.

Jesus said that he had accomplished all that the Father had given him to do. None of us can say this. How many duties have we only half done, skimping our work, slighting it, doing it negligently, indifferently! We have left great blanks where there should have been beautiful work. We have failed many times to be patient and kind. We have not always gathered up the thorns and planted roses in their place. At whatever phase of our life we look, we see that we have not accomplished all that was given us to do.

Yet we should not be too greatly cast down by our shortcomings. If we have sincerely tried always to do our best, if we have been faithful in every duty, up to our measure, doing what we could, we need not grieve. God is pleased with our efforts and strivings, though we fail in full accomplishment. In the vestibule of a beautiful library erected in the memory of a noble and gentle woman, are these lines on a bronze tablet:—

"The good she tried to do shall stand as if t'were done ;

God finishes the work by noble souls begun."

These words tell the story of every true and sincere life. We have great thoughts, desires that are born in heaven, intentions that are lofty and worthy. We do our work, however, and it seems in our eyes most meager and paltry. We fall far below our own intention. But we should not be discouraged. The good we sincerely sought to do, though we seem to have failed, shall stand at the last as if we had done it. What noble souls begin, God finishes.

They tell us that in nature nothing ever is really lost. Matter changes its form, but not a particle of it ever actually perishes. As it is in nature, so it is in life—nothing ever is lost.

"What though the seed fall by the wayside, and the birds get it,

Yet the birds are fed."

Many of our efforts seem to yield no good result. We speak our words of exhortation, or warning, of encouragement, but so far as we can see no lives are helped, comforted, or strengthened. We pour out our love in earnest prayers for those in whom we are interested, asking that they be kept from evil and led in right paths, but our prayers seem not to be answered. Yet we shall

know at length that nothing we have done ever has really failed.

Some day, all our hopes and dreams which we have sincerely and diligently sought to put into their children's hearts out in beauty, and waiting for us among the things laid up for us and reserved. We try to express the beautiful inspirations of love that the divine Spirit puts into our hearts, but the music is too celestial for our earthly lips to sing. We seek to translate into the speech of earth the holy feelings and emotions which in our best moods struggle to express themselves, but we cannot find words sublime enough to interpret their meaning. But some day we shall find all these unfulfilled hopes, these unrealized longings, these unattained strivings, waiting in all their beauty.

We need not grieve, then, over what seems to have been failure on our part, if only we have been faithful. What the mothers have sought to put into their children's hearts and minds, though it seems as if they had wrought in vain; what the teachers have tried to teach the scholars in their classes and schools, though nothing appears to have come of it all; what we have all longed to do for those we love, but have seemed to fail in doing—none of these strivings, efforts, and longings have really failed. Some day we shall find the things we have sincerely tried to do, standing amid heaven's finished work. "God finishes the work by noble souls begun."

Westminster Teacher.

—:O:—

Only a few clear, shining hours—

That was all. Yet God could make

Out of these, for a sick child's sake,

A blossom-wonder as fair and sweet

As ever broke at an angel's feet.

Only a life of barren pain,

Wet with sorrowful tears for rain ;

Warmed sometimes by a wandering gleam

Of joy, that seemed but a happy dream ;

A life as common and brown and bare

As the box of earth in the window there ;

Yet it bore at last the precious bloom

Of a perfect soul in that narrow room—

Pure as the snowy leaves that fold

Over the flower's heart of gold.

'Tis excellent to have a giant's strength, but 'tis tyrannous to use it like a giant.—Shakespeare.

THE WIDOW'S PRAYER ANSWERED.

A minister, who preached in a country village in England, told his wife that he was going to drive in his buggy into the town on business, and he would be able to buy for her what she needed, but could not get in that small village. She made out a list of things for him to buy in the city. When he reached the town he put his horse and buggy in the stable of a hotel, and went to where the large shops were to execute his wife's commissions. In passing a baker's shop he noticed a large loaf of fresh, brown bread in the window along with cakes and sweet-meats. He was particularly fond of brown bread so he went into the shop and bought the loaf. But when he came out of the shop it was raining hard; as he opened his umbrella. Then he exclaimed, "How foolish I have been! I cannot carry this great loaf of bread with me to all the other shops, and hold my umbrella up at the same time. What can I do with it?"

Near by was a small cottage, and the thought came to him "Give the loaf to whoever lives in that little cottage." He opened the gate, and going into the yard saw an old woman filling a kettle at the well. He called out cheerfully "Good afternoon! I wonder if you would be so kind as to relieve me of this loaf? I am very fond of brown bread, but I find I cannot manage to hold it and the umbrella also, along with all the other parcels I shall have when I get through with my shopping." The old lady took him inside the house, and showed him that she had set her table for supper, but had nothing in the house to eat or drink except a pinch of tea-leaves. She said with tears in her eyes "I prayed to God to send me something to eat, and then I lighted the fire, and I was just filling the tea kettle when you came into my yard and offered me this beautiful loaf of bread. It was the Lord Himself who got you to buy a loaf which you could not carry to your home, and then He whispered to you to bring it to me."

There is no need too great or too small to bring to our Father in Heaven. But we must be sure that He is our Father in Heaven. As many as receive Him in their hearts, and believe on His name, to them gives He power to become the *sons of God*. And then all that belongs to Christ becomes theirs. Happy is that people who can say from the heart, The Lord is *my* strength, and God is *my* Lord."

GREATER SPEED OF VESSELS

Some flying trips across the Atlantic may be expected soon if the claims of many inventors and manufacturers may be credited. Several new turbine devices have been put forth as able to carry a ship across the Atlantic in four days and even in less time. The Cramp Shipbuilding Company claims to have a boat which will cross in three days. If by that they mean the run of three thousand miles between Liverpool and New York, their claims is a sustained speed of nearly forty-two miles an hour, or greater than that of any railroad train at present for the same distance including stops.

—*The Technical World.*

THE FOOL'S PRAYER.

THE royal feast was done; the king
Sought some new sport to banish care,
And to his jester cried: "Sir Fool,
Kneel down, and make for us a prayer!"

The jester doffed his cap and bells,
And stood the mocking court before;
They could not see the bitter smile
Behind the painted grin he wore.

He bowed his head, and bent his knee
Upon the monarch's silken stool;
His pleading voice arose: "O Lord,
Be merciful to me, a fool!"

"'Tis not by guilt the onward sweep
Of truth, and right, O Lord, we stay;
'Tis by our follies that so long
We hold the earth from heaven away.

"The ill-timed truth we might have kept—
Who knows how sharp it pierced and stung!
The word we had not sense to say—
Who knows how grandly it had rung!

"Earth bears no balsam for mistakes;
Men crown the knave, and scourge the tool
That did his will; but thou, O Lord,
Be merciful to me, a fool!"

The room was hushed; in silence rose
The king, and sought his gardens cool,
And walked apart, and murmured low,
"Be merciful to me, a fool!"

—*Edward Rowland Sill.*

Some day my earthly house will fall,
I cannot tell how soon 'twill be;
But this I know my All in All
Has now a place in Heaven for me.

"The Christian life is a vindication of God in the midst of a skeptical and unbelieving age."—John Wesley.

COUNTING COIN ELECTRICALLY.

Very few of us have any trouble in counting our coin by hand. In mints, however, in banking houses, in the offices of electric railways, and in many other establishments, vast quantities of coin have to be counted and packed daily. An electrical machine lately devised counts coins of any size from pennies to dollars, and wraps them at the rate of four hundred and twenty per minute as long as the current is transmitted and the coins are fed into the hopper. An expert, while he is in good working order, can count and wrap fifty coins a minute; so it will be seen that the machine does the work of eight men. It takes a man to run the machine, however, his work consisting of sorting the coins, picking out plugged pieces, blanks, and buttons, which in some cases seem to get mixed with good money. The machine receives the sorted coins at one end, and delivers them all smoothly rolled in bunches to suit and with the wrapper pasted. It is the invention of a man whose business it was to collect coins from slot machines and resort, count, and bundle them. His explanation of the reason that such a machine was never invented before, is that hitherto inventors have never had any money to count.

Technical World.

THREE WORDS OF STRENGTH.

There are three lessons I would write—

Three words, as with a burning pen,

In tracings of eternal light,

Upon the hearts of men.

Have Hope! Though clouds environ round,

And gladness hides her face in scorn,

Put thou the shadow from thy brow—

To-night but hath its morn.

Have Faith! Where'er thy barque is driven—

The calm's disport, the tempest's mirth—

Know this: God rules the hosts of heaven,

The inhabitants of earth.

Have Love! Not love alone for one;

But man, as man, thy brothers call;

And scatter, like the circling sun,

Thy charities on all.

Thus 'grave these lessons on thy soul—

Hope, Faith and Love—and thou shalt find

Strength when life's surges rudest roll,

Light when thou else were blind.

—Schiller.

"In this dim world of crowded cares

We rarely know, 'till 'wildered eyes

See white wings lessening up the skies,

The angels with us unawares."

—How often it is true that only in their vanishing do our friends reveal themselves to us! They live with us for days and years and bless us in countless ways, bringing to us to the best gifts of heaven, and yet, somehow, we do not see the splendor of their lives or of their ministry till they are gone.

—o—

Why shadow the beauty of sea or of land
With a doubt or a fear?

God holds all the swift rolling worlds in His band,
And sees what no man can as yet understand,

That out of life here,

With its smile and its tear,

Comes forth into light, from eternity planned,

The soul of good cheer;

Don't worry—

The end shall appear.

—Miss Elizabeth Porter Gould.

Lord, Thou knowest, only Thou,

Just how to lead,

Just what cross 'tis best I bear,

Just what lot is mine to share,

Just what I need.

Lord, Thou knowest, only Thou,

Just what is best—

'Mid the world's soul-wearing fret,

Burning heat or chilling wet,

In Thee is rest.

Lord, Thou lovest, and Thy love

Doth bring no smart:

Dearest earthly love may fail;

Thine outlasteth every gale,

And fills the heart.

Hannah Coddington.

Grave on thy heart each past "red-letter day,"

Forget not all the sunshine of the way

By which the Lord hath led thee—answered prayers

And joys unasked, strange blessings, lifted cares,

Grand promise echoes. Thus thy life shall be

One record of his love and faithfulness to thee.

Frances R. Havergal.

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